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AUTHOR Chandler, Daniel Ross
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ABSTRACT

This interdisciplinary annotated bibliography consists of 59 citations of materials published between 1967 and 1994. Most of the materials in the bibliography are books, but several articles and sermons are included. After a section which serves as an introduction on the subject of homosexuality, the bibliography is divided into sections on communication studies, autobiographical accounts, quantitative research, history, law, literature, sociology, religion, gay and lesbian spirituality, ethics, and the AIDS crisis. (NKA)

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Gay Studies: A Communicative Perspective

An Interdisciplinary, Annotated bibliography

Prepared by
Daniel Ross Chandler

September, 1994

Speech Communication Association, 5105 Backlick Road, Bldg. E, Annadale, Virginia 22003.

This specialized bibliography is prepared for students and teachers interested in the growing literature which describes, directly or indirectly, homosexual liberation as a rhetorical movement

INTRODUCTIONS

Herdt, Gilbert, ed. Gay Culture in America. Boston: Beacon Press, 1992.
Attempting to describe what they designate as "authentic" in gay men's lives, the contributors study the personal and public dimensions and discover perspective not simply about sexuality, but about human nature and contemporary cultural conditions. These writers examine the diverse themes pervading "gay culture"; describe the emerging institutions, myths, and symbols; analyze the "coming-out" process; and study the relationships among younger and older gay men.

Miller, Neil. In Search of Gay America. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1989.
In a cross-country search to discover what "gayness" means during the 1980s, Miller discerns the enormous social changes and wonders whether the transformations happening in the metropolitan cities have spread to the rural environs. The author describes minority communities, religion, law, politics, and gay unions celebrating commitments.

Mohr, Richard D. Gay Ideas: Outing and Other Controversies. Boston: Beacon Press, 1994.
The author analyzes the arenas of modern gay experience represented by the bars, the baths, pornography, militant social action groups, and emerging gay/lesbian studies.

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Ground-breaking and provocative, the book discusses "outing," the strategy of revealing the identities of gay men and lesbians. Mohr expresses unfashionable ideas, confronts the contemporary controversies, indicts current political directions, and criticizes social blindness and personal self-loathing.

Plummer, Kenneth, ed. The Making of the Modern Homosexual. Totowa: Barnes and Noble, 1981.
The contributors distinguish between the "homosexual" as a person who has existed throughout history and the stereotype invented during the twentieth century. Taking the "contemporary construction" of the homosexual as their common focus, the contributors elaborate that although "same-sex" sexual experiences have long happened, the concept of the "homosexual" is a particularly modern construct that has profound consequences in structuring recent homosexual experiences and culture.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Chesebro, James, ed. Gayspeak. New York: Pilgrim Press, 1981.
Chesebro's outstanding anthology contains scholarly speech communication studies analyzing homosexual liberation as a contemporary culture, rhetorical movement, political protest, and alternative life-style. Helpful historical and communication information is presented by the Caucus on Gay Men and Lesbian Concerns of the Speech Communication Association.

Crew, Louie, ed. The Gay Academic. Palm Springs, California: Etc. Publications, 1978.
Crew's excellent interdisciplinary anthology summarizes pertinent information and indicates continued scholarly research.

Ringer, R. Jeffrey, ed. Queer Words, Queer Images. New York: New York University Press, 1994.
In a scholarly anthology analyzing private and public communication among lesbians and gay men, the contributors cover an extensive spectrum ranging from television broadcasting to intimate conversation. The book covers gay and lesbian rhetoric, media presentations, the portrayal of gay men and lesbians in language and text, "coming-out" in the classroom, the discussion of homosexuality and AIDS on prime-time television, the presentation of homosexuality in young adult fiction, "equating" female athletics with lesbianism, and the "politics of identity" in Edmund White's writings.

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNTS

Adair, Nancy and Casey Adair, eds. Word Is Out. San Francisco: Glide, 1976.
Gay men and lesbians from varied backgrounds and diverse life-styles discuss themselves in this dialogue from a perceptive television documentary.

Brown, Howard. Familiar Faces, Hidden Lives. New York: New America Library, 1976.
Written by a celebrated gay advocate who inaugurated the National Gay Task Force, Brown's book describes the problems and possibilities experienced by gays.

Ebert, Alan. The Homosexuals. New York: Macmillan and Company, 1977.
Seventeen gay men describe themselves and their experiences in interesting and informative accounts that indicate the diversity found among homosexuals.

Fisher, Peter. The Gay Mystique: The Myth and Reality of Male Homosexuality, New York: Stein an Day, 1972.
Analyzes how barriers to understanding distort perceptions of persons and how these barriers are removed when people communicate.

Jackson-Paris, Rod and Bob. Straight From the Heart: A Love Story. New York: Warner Books, 1994.
The book describes the relationship between a prominent male model and a body-builder who became "Mr. Universe." These two young men stood at the threshold of fame and fortune, yearned for an enduring romantic relationship, and celebrated their love with a Unitarian service of union. The account recounts the development of cloistered physical-fitness "jocks" into publically visible gay-rights activists.

White, Mel. Strangers at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1994.
In a moving memoir and personal manifesto, a former ghostwriter for Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson recalls his feelings as a closeted gay, his attempts to confront himself and develop friendships, and his "coming-out" by acknowledging and appreciating his homosexuality. The autobiography is a powerful, compelling description of the psychological pain, religious struggle, and sustaining hopes experienced by a man who is gay and Christian.

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH

Bell, Alan P.; Weinberg, Martin S. Homosexualities: A Study of Human Diversity. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1978.
This analytical study describes the dimensions of sexual experience and aspects of social and psychological adjustment.

Bell, Alan P.; Weinberg, Martin S.; Hammersmith, Sue Kiefer. Sexual Preference: Its Development in Men and Women. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1981.
Three researchers from the Kinsey Institute for Sex Research conclude that a homosexual orientation apparently emerges from a fundamental predisposition that is possible biological and that becomes evident as a failure to conform to societal stereotypes of "masculinity" and "femininity."

Churchill, Wainwright. Homosexual Behavior Among Males. New York: Hawthorne, 1967.
A pioneering cross-cultural and cross-species investigation examines male homosexual behavior from a comprehensive perspective.

Harry, Joseph; DeVall, William B. The Social Organization of Gay Males. New York: Prager, 1978.
This informative study provides pertinent information about adolescent experience and "coming out," marriages between homosexuals, sex role and dominance interpretations, urbanization and gay communities, discrimination and adjustment in employment, and participation in the homosexual liberation movement.

Masters, William H.; Johnson, Virginia E. Homosexuality in Perspective. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1979.
Two well-known researchers present a scientific study analyzing homosexual response.

Tripp, C.A. The Homosexual Matrix. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1975.
A ten-year research project conducted by a psychologist-psychotherapist probed homosexual and heterosexual experiences and shattered stereotypes.

Weinberg, Martin; Williams, Colin J. Male Homosexuals: Their Problems and Adaptations. New York: Oxford University Press, 1974.
Going beyond the initial Kinsey report describing male sexual behavior, this specialized research describes the problems and characteristics of a specific gay population.

HISTORY

Dover, K.J. Greek Homosexuality. New York: Vintage Books, 1979.
A landmark study written by a distinguished classics scholar reaches provocative conclusions about homosexual behavior and sentiment in ancient Greece. Dover examined the evidence from the eighth through the second centuries B.C. as found in vase painting, poetry, Plato's dialogues, forensic speeches, and Aristophanes' comedies.

Hyde, H. Montgomery. The Love That Dared Not Speak Its Name. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1970.
Hyde's historical narrative recounts the developments that culminated in Parliament's passing legislation removing criminal sanctions against private homosexual behavior between consenting adults.

Katz, Jonathan, ed. Gay American History: Lesbians and Gay Men in the U.S.A.: A Documentary Account. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1976; A Homosexual Emancipation Miscellany, 1835-1952 New York: Arno Press, 1975; and Gay/Lesbian Almanac New York: Harper and Row, 1983.
These well-received histories contain rich primary sources that document the pervasive "homosexual presence" throughout American historical development. Katz's commendable books extend historical understanding and contribute an essential account toward a comprehensive survey.

Plato. On Homosexuality: Lysias, Phaedrus, and Symposium. Buffalo: Prometheus, 1991.
In these three Platonic dialogues, the character Socrates conducts a stimulating intellectual exchange about the beloved, physical beauty, the beauty that transcends the physical, and the power of love between men. These literary-philosophical classics indicate how the ancient Athenians appreciated homosexual love as an educational, aesthetic, and social influence. Phaedrus contains comments concerning rhetoric.

Sergent, Bernard. Homosexuality in Greek Myth. Boston: Beacon Press, 1986.
Recognizing that in some societies sexual relationships are not classified as "hetero" and "homo," the author reports that in classical Greece a man's attraction to his own sex never excluded his attraction to females. The "pederastic relationship" was expected on young males and regarded as indicating virility and power. Sergent studied the enshrouded system of Greek homosexuality, examined the roots in the institutionalized pederasty practiced in ancient Indo-European culture, and concluded that homosexuality of the classical ear emanated from the prehistoric practice of initiatory homosexuality.

LAW

Bogan, E. Carrington; Haft, Marilyn G.; Lister, Charles; Rupp, John P.; and Stoddard, Thomas B. The Rights of Gay People. New York: Bantam, 1983.
A sweeping survey summarizes decisions reached through the courts.

LITERATURE

Adams, Stephen. The Homosexual as Hero in Contemporary Fiction. New York: Barnes and Noble, 1980.
Adams challenges the critics who condemn writers who discuss homosexuality. Simultaneously the author the stereotypes that categorize "homosexual art" and perpetuates "recognizable styles." Adams renounces the claim that gay literature is a minority interest that lacks relevance. Although the book never pretends to present a comprehensive survey, the author discusses the writings of E.M. Forster, Gore Vidal, James Baldwin, James Purdy, John Rechy, William Burroughs, and Jean Genet.

Genet, Jean. Our Lady of the Flowers. New York: Grove Press, 1963.
Genet's contemporary masterpiece, considered comparable with Joyce's Ulysses, pictures graphically the lower depths of human depravity and perversity, inhabited by homosexuals, prostitutes, and transvestites.

Rechy, John. City of Night. New York: Grove Press, 1963.
This beautifully written novel, regarded frequently as a contemporary literary classic, describes the restless wanderings of an American gay. This powerful story provides fascinating reading and perceptive insight.

Rechy, John. Rushes . New York: Grove Press, 1981.
A dramatic portrayal describing interactions and relations within a gay bar during one evenings events.

SOCIOLOGY

D'Emilio, John. Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1983.
The writer provides a glimpse into contemporary "gay culture" as a political and sociological phenomenon.

Humphreys, Laud. Out of the Closets: The Sociology of Homosexual Liberation. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1972.
This thoughtful analysis sketches the developmental sequences within homosexual liberation and suggests how gays rebel against an "intolerable reality."

Levine, Martin P. Gay Men: The Sociology of Male Homosexuality. New York: Harper and Row, 1979.
Levine's anthology contains popular articles about homosexual oppression, gay culture, alternative life-styles, and liberation movement.

McCaffrey, Joseph A. The Homosexual Dialectic. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1972.
This excellent anthology presents substantive articles analyzing the fundamental sociological and psychological dimensions of homosexual liberation.

RELIGION

Boswell, John. Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1980.
Boswell's award-winning, unusually sophisticated survey examines fifteen hundred years of experience endured by homosexuals living in non-Slavic Europe between the beginnings of Christianity and the fourteenth century.

Boswell, John. Same Sex Unions in Premodern Europe. New York: Villard Books, 1994.
Citing Catholic and Orthodox liturgies from same-sex unions that were performed in the Christian churches, the distinguished Yale historian discerns striking and significant parallels with heterosexual nuptial services. In a sweeping survey, Boswell traces same-sex unions in Platonic Greece, Rome, and Christian Europe; the author confirms that same-sex relationships were sanctioned and even idealized in western societies.

Johnson, Maury. Gays Under Grace. Nashville; Winston-Derek Publications, 1983.
Written as a Gay Christian's response to the Moral Majority, Johnson's book presents homosexuality as morally neutral sexual orientation. The slightest sensitivity or understanding of gay issues and concerns. Johnson strikes an orthodox chord by contending that with the coming of Christ, "sexual outcasts" condemned under the Mosaic dispensation were received with honor and recognized as co-heirs of the kingdom.

McNeil, John J. Taking a Chance on God. Boston: Beacon Press, 1988.
By assisting gay men and lesbians to discover release from fear, self-hatred, and guilt and to develop hospitality, creativity,a nd compassion, McNeil provides a liberating theology. Written by a co-founder of the New York chapter of Dignity, the book examines the spiritual and theological dimensions of gay and lesbian liberation; explains that both scripture and tradition support personal and sensual love among same-sex persons; and demonstrates how a positive gay or lesbian identity is compatible with Christian faith.

McNeil, John J. The Church and The Homosexual. Boston: Beacon Press, 1980.
A Jesuit moral theologian contends that homosexuality is consistent with God's will, that frequently gays make unique social contributions, and that gay relationships are potentially good. McNeil synthesizes extensive knowledge.

Swindler, Arlene, ed. Homosexuality and World Religions. Valley Forge: Trinity Press, 1993.

In an unprecedented study surveying homosexuality in the world's religions, Swindler studies the ambiguous status accorded homosexuality in religious texts, traditions, and cultures. Among the religions included in this research are Hinduism, Buddhism, Judais, Roman Catholicism, Protestantism, Islam, and the religions of the Americas and Africa.

GAY AND LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY

Nugesser, Lon G. Epidemic of Courage: Facing AIDS in America. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1986.
Describing the AIDS crisis as the most devastating contemporary medical crisis, Nugesser studies the emotional turmoil, social confusion, and helpless despair. Addressing the religious and spiritual dimensions within this tragedy, the author analyzes the impact with seven gay men living with AIDS and their close associates and companions.

O'Neill, Craig; Ritter, Kathleen. Coming Out Within: Stages of Awakening for Lesbians and Gay Men. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1992.
A compassionate guide describing the spiritual an psychological growth and a testament explaining all humans' spiritual journey, the book addresses internalized homophobia. The authors discuss the crisis that develops when gay men and lesbians experience estrangement, confront emotional devastation when a friend dies, and the exclusion from society. O'Neill and Ritter present a useful model for studying the process through which persons experience greater personal growth and spiritual transformation.

Reed, Paul. Serenity: Challenging the Fear of AIDS-from despair to hope. Berkeley: Celestial Arts, 1987.
Reed explains that confronting the AIDS crisis requires facing fear, anger, and hopelessness. Finding serenity necessitates developing new habits, improved attitudes, and physical fitness. The book is a practical guide for developing emotional strength during physically and psychologically challenging times.

Smith, Walter J. AIDS: Living and Dying with Hope. New York: Paulist Press, 1988.
The book considers the destructive cycle of traumas that often disrupt human life when a person is diagnosed as having AIDS or the related syndrome. Human relationships are strained, meaning-systems become challenged, and persons confront medical and financial difficulties. Smith gives suggestions for assisting families and friends in addressing phobias and fears, for facilitating loved ones to work through grief and despair, and for survivors who struggle with sexuality, love, and death to discover deeper meanings about human existence.

ETHICS

Batchelor, Edward Jr. Homosexuality and Ethics. New York: Pilgrim Press, 1981.
A clergyman presents diverse interpretations form different schools of philosophers and theologians who consider the ethics of homosexuality.

Hanigan, James P. Homosexuality: The Test Case For Christian Social Ethics. New York: Paulist Press, 1988.
The writer describes "the homosexual situation," examines the relevant biblical and theological traditions, studies the moral evaluations, considers the relationship between sexuality and vocation, ponders sex and the virtue of chastity, considers sex and freedom, and philosophically contemplates God's will and human knowledge. This is an ambitious undertaking. Realizing that homosexuality is the issue that best measures the universal and evangelical character of a Christian sexual ethic, Hanigan concludes that ethical prescriptions must satisfy the criteria imposed by biblical and theological traditions, consider thoughtfully knowledge about human sexuality discovered by the human sciences, and conform to the teachings given by the church's magusterium.

THE AIDS CRISIS

Altman, Dennis. AIDS in the Mind of America. New York: Anchor Books, 1987.
The author discusses the conceptualization of AIDS and the distinctiveness that characterizes "a very American epidemic."

Coffin, William Sloane Jr. "AIDS," a sermon preached at the Riverside Church, New York City. Available through Publications Office, the Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Drive, New York, New York 10027.

Castro, R. MIchael. AIDS and the Ministry of the Church. Nashville: The General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church, 1987.
This helpful guide provides information about AIDS as a disease, a biblical and theological reflection, and suggestions for the effective pastoral care.

Fortunato, John E. AIDS: The Spiritual Dilemma. New York: Harper and Row, 1987.
As religious institutions confront the AIDS crisis, this writer challenges church persons to examine their theology of human sexuality, develop effective pastoral care, and consider the realities of eternal life.

Hancock, Lee. "Fear and Healing in the AIDS Crisis," Christianity and Crisis. (June 24, 1985), 255-258.

Kubler-Ross, Elisabeth. AIDS: The Ultimate Challenge. New York: Macmillian, 1987.
Recognizing that people are aware that AIDS will kill large segments of the world's population, Kubler-Ross states that persons can either assist the afflicted or abandon the sufferers. She gives comfort to the seriously ill and the dying by assisting persons with AIDS through the terminal stages of illness. Prophetically the author warns that continuing prejudice and discrimination can culminate in reduced financial resources for conducting research and providing medical treatment.

Morin, Stephen F.; Charles, Kenneth A.; Malyon, Alan K. "The Psychological Impact of AIDS on Gay Men," American Psychologist (November 1984), 1288-1293.

Shelp, Earl E.; Sunderland, Ronald H. AIDS and the Church. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1987.
The writers ponder the Christian response to an international epidemic thát endangers millions of people. Shelp and Sunderland provide an informed discussion explaining the biological and medical aspects of the epidemic, contend that God's people have a special social responsibility, and present useful models as means for enhancing the church's ministry.

Shilts, Randy. And The Band Played On. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1987.
In this classic of medical writing and comprehensive investigating reporting, a San Francisco award-winning journalist argues that the AIDS crisis in the United States "was allowed to happen by an array of institutions, all of which failed to perform their appropriate tasks."

Smith, Leon, ed. Homosexuality: In Search of a Christian Understanding. Nashville: The General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church,1981.
An outstanding anthology contains pertinent statements by intelligent and informed theologians who comprehend and communicate the biblical perspectives on homosexuality, the theological and ethical dimensions, and a "model for thinking theologically about homosexuality."

Surgeon General's Report on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Washington, D.C.: United States Department of Health and Human Services, 1986.
Surgeon General Koon describes the cause of AIDS,the signs and symptoms, the current situation, and future prospects.